



# Proclamation

*From the Governor of the State of Maryland*

## FALL PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK SEPTEMBER 20 - 26, 2015

- WHEREAS,** Maryland is home to an estimated 800,838 citizens over the age of 65, comprising 13.4 percent of our state's population; and
- WHEREAS,** It is estimated that across the country one-third of people over the age of 65, and half over the age of 80 will fall each year; and
- WHEREAS,** Falls are the leading cause of injury-related emergency room visits and hospitals admissions among Marylanders age 65 and older, resulting in over \$262 million in medical charges annually, and falls are the leading cause of injury-related deaths among people over the age of 65; and
- WHEREAS,** Injuries from falls are largely preventable; and
- WHEREAS,** All citizens are encouraged to help reduce the number of injuries associated with falls by recognizing and resolving hazardous environments for Maryland seniors; and
- WHEREAS,** The quality of life is improved for Maryland citizens who remain free from fall-related injury, independent and active.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND,** do hereby proclaim September 20 - 26, 2015 as **FALL PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK** in Maryland, and do call upon the all citizens to join in supporting this observance.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,  
this 20th day of September  
Two Thousand and fifteen

*Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.*  
Governor

*Byrd H. Lathrop*  
Lt. Governor

*John C. Womack*  
Secretary of State